

Village of Cremona Viability Review

Initial Public Information Session
November 19, 2025

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Objectives



Why are we here?



What is a viability review (VR)?



How will you be involved?



What are the next steps?

Why are we here?

August 2024 – Mass resignation of council and appointment of Official Administrator (OA)

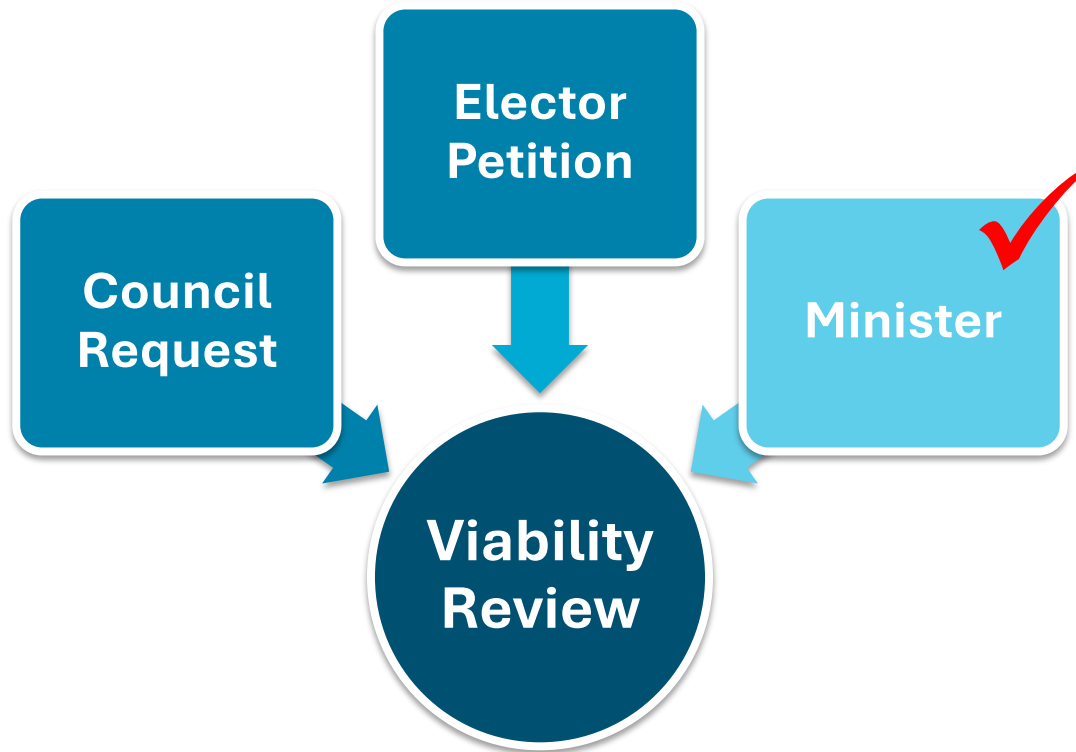
November 2024 – Village elects a new council

March 2025 – Second mass resignation of council

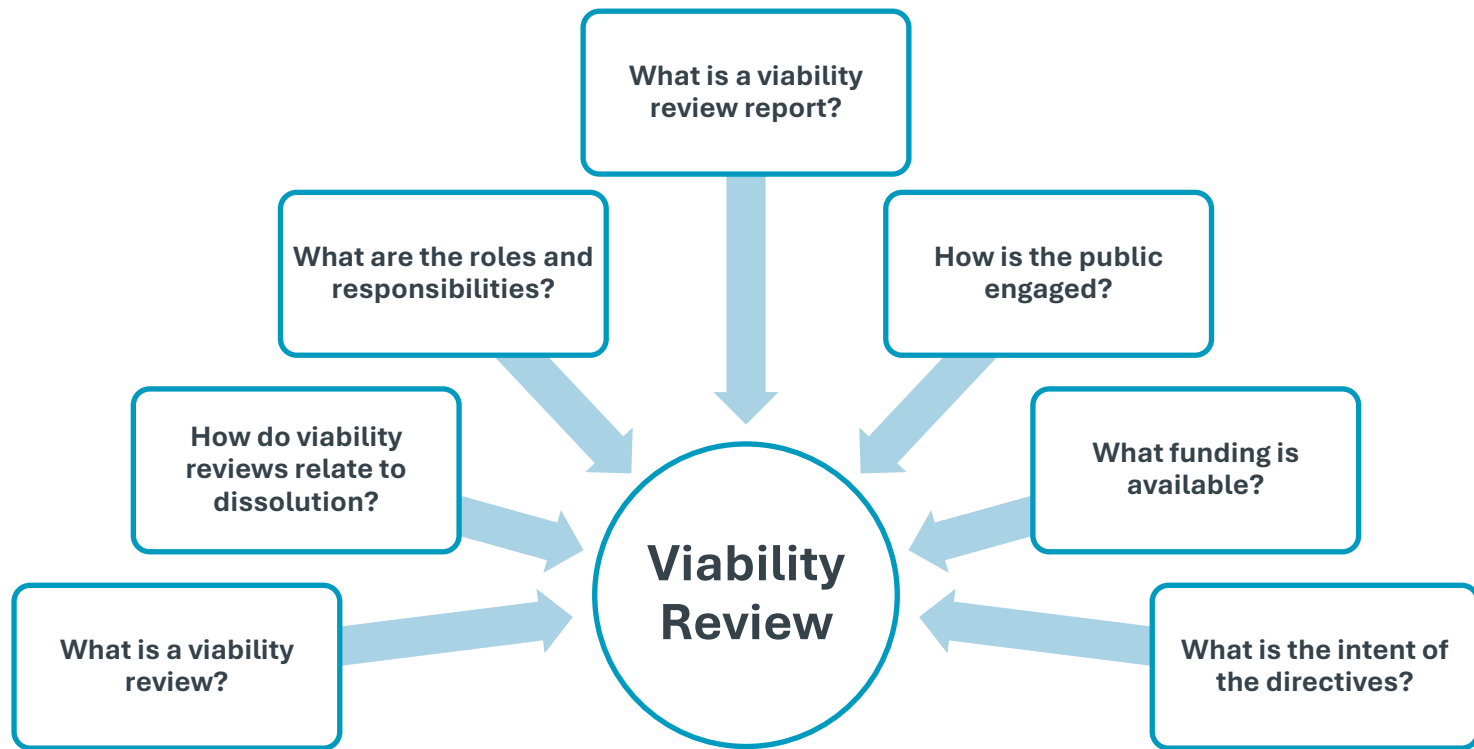
March 2025 - Initiation of Viability Review

August 2025 - Procurement of firm to conduct Infrastructure Audit

How are viability reviews initiated?



What is a viability review?



What is a viability review?

A **viability review** is an objective review of a municipality's governance, finances, infrastructure, and services that provides options on how the community can become viable in the future.



This viability review will:

Engage residents, electors, the village, Mountain View County, and municipal associations

Focus on solutions to enable Cremona to be viable over the long-term

Provide factual unbiased information and include recommendations for long-term viability

Move Cremona beyond the status quo

How do viability reviews relate to dissolution?

Viability Review

- Once initiated by the minister, a viability review must:
 - Review a municipality's community, governance, administration, finances, infrastructure, and services; and
 - Develop options for long-term viability in a Viability Review Report.
- Dissolution is one of the options considered.

How do viability reviews relate to dissolution?

Remain and Make Changes

- Minister issues directives the municipality must follow
- Ministry staff meet with council to review directives and next steps
- Annual follow-up meetings and submissions for five years
- Ministry staff available to answer questions and provide resources

Dissolution

- Restructuring process where a municipality is unincorporated and becomes a hamlet in the neighbouring municipality
- Requires a viability review
- Ministry staff support the village and county during the transition
- If selected, anticipated January 1, 2027

What are the roles and responsibilities?



Municipal Affairs

- Leads the viability review process
- Informs residents and electors of events
- Hosts public information sessions
- Writes the viability review report
- Conducts the vote of electors

Village and County

- Complete an infrastructure audit (village)
- Provide information about municipal operations
- Provide input through the Viability Review Support Group (VRSG)
- Assist with communications to residents and electors

What is a viability review report?

Community

Governance

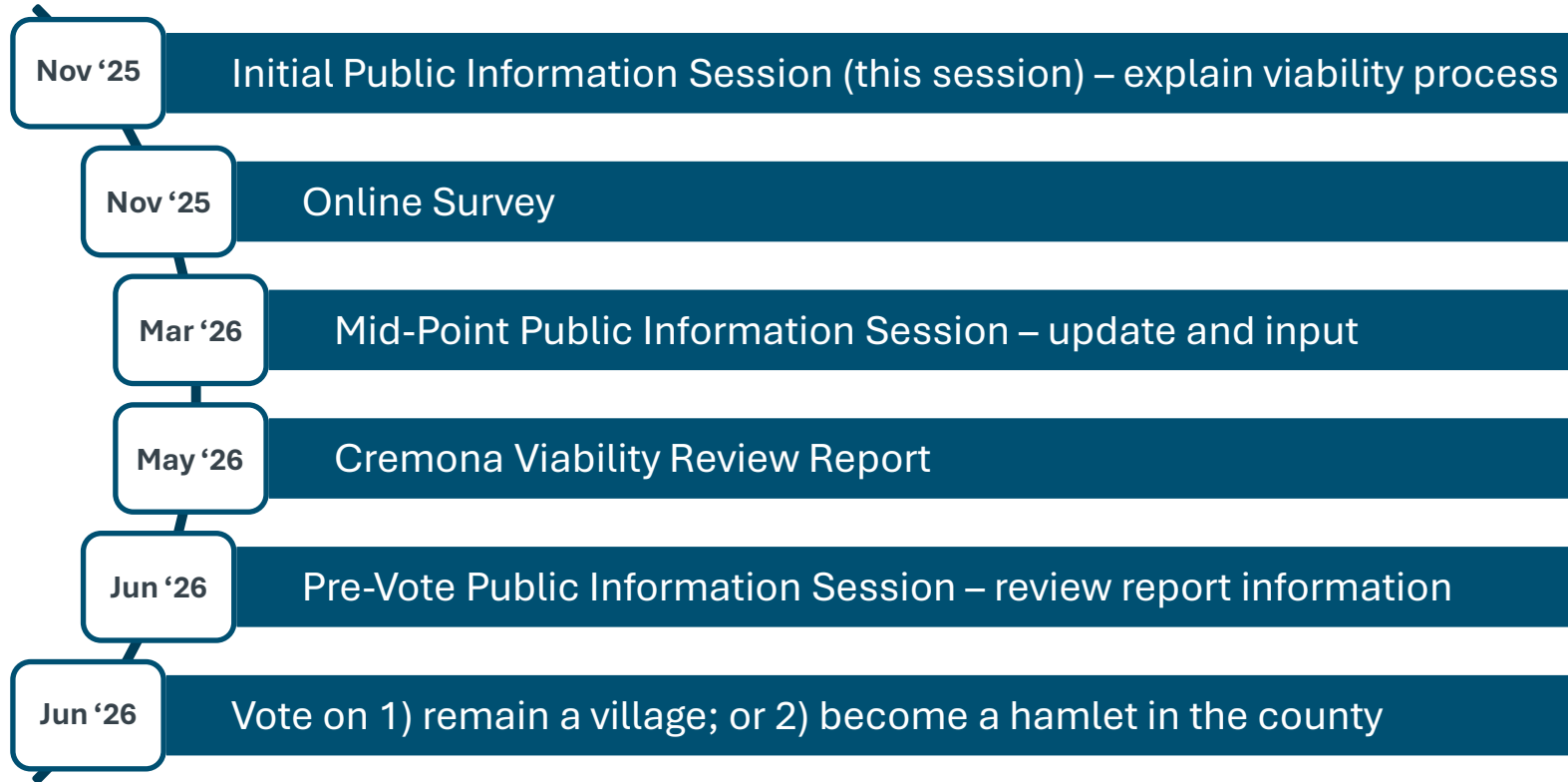
Administration

Finances

Infrastructure

Services

How is the public engaged?



Online Survey

Open until January 5, 2026

Collect perspectives on:

- Cremona Beach Viability
- Changes the village could make for long-term viability
- Information you need to make an informed vote

Access by:

- www.alberta.ca/village-of-cremona-viability-review-community-survey
- Government of Alberta “Viability reviews for municipalities” website



What funding is available?

(Alberta Community Partnership)

During a viability review:

- Funding to assist the review municipality with an infrastructure audit.
- Minister approved \$150,000 for this audit.

If dissolution occurs, Mountain View County would be eligible to apply for post-restructuring funding based on the village population:

1. Transitional Stream to integrate the village's governance, administration, and legislation into those of the county - \$432,500
2. Infrastructure Stream for make hamlet improvements - \$1,447,500

Total of \$1,880,000

What is the intent of the directives?

Assist Cremona to:

- Move forward in a sustainable manner and achieve a viable future.
- Become the foundation for a long-term action plan.

Recommendations starting with:

- “a municipality must” when legislation is not being followed; and
- “a municipality should consider” when an action could benefit the municipality’s long-term viability and is suggested for council consideration.

Some directives are unique to Cremona, others may be like recommendations in other reports.

Questions?

<https://www.alberta.ca/viability-reviews-for-municipalities.aspx>

<https://www.alberta.ca/municipal-maps-statistics.aspx>



10 Minute Break

10 mins 9 mins 8 mins 7 mins 6 mins

5 mins 4 mins 3 mins 2 mins 1 min



We want to hear from you!

At your table:

- Decide on a notetaker who will be keeping track of the conversation
- Provide as much information as you wish within the time allotted
- Be prepared to share your thoughts

Discussion Rules:

- Respect one another
- Give everyone a chance to talk
- There are no wrong answers
- Opinions are personal and confidential



Your Community

*The things that make
you proud to be from
Cremona, that make
your community
special and unique*

Your Community – Orange Paper

1. What do you like about living in Cremona?
2. What concerns, if any, do you have about living in the village?
3. What community programs and recreation are most important to you?
4. What worries, if any, do you have about community in the hamlet if the village dissolves?

Local Governance

*Council sets a path
and directs municipal
administration to
achieve goals and
objectives*



Local Governance – Green Paper

1. If able, would you be interested in running for municipal council?
2. Before March 2025, did you feel represented by village council?
3. What worries, if any, do you have about governance in the hamlet if the village dissolves?

Village Administration

*Municipal
administration
provides services and
implements the
direction of council*



Village Administration – Purple Paper

1. Does the village have the administrative capacity to manage day-to-day operations and public works in the municipality?
2. Does the village adequately communicate and engage with you as a member of the public?
3. What worries, if any, do you have about administration in the hamlet if the village dissolves?

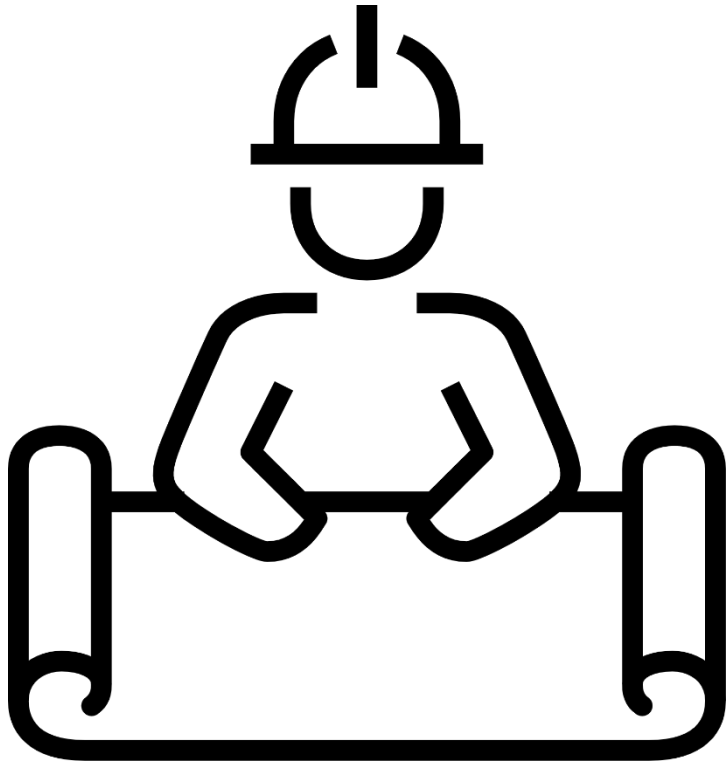
Sustainable Finances

*The financial health
and sustainability of
the village budget,
including taxes,
revenues, and
expenditures*



Sustainable Finances – Yellow Paper

1. What are your thoughts on village finances and taxes?
2. Do you think your taxes and fees are appropriate for the services you receive from the village?
3. What worries, if any, do you have about finances in the hamlet if the village dissolves?



Physical Infrastructure

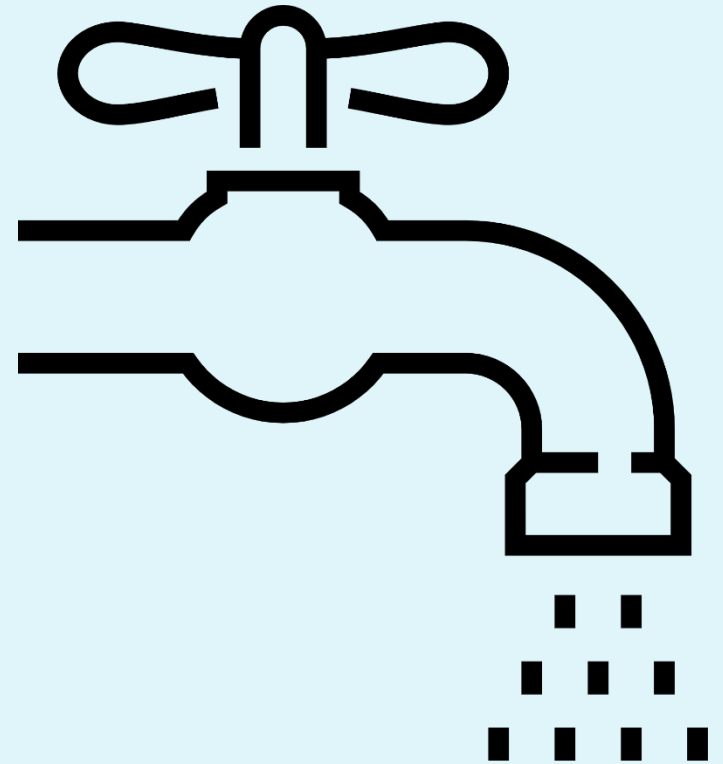
Core infrastructure that meets the needs of residents and the community in a safe and appropriate manner

Physical Infrastructure – Light Green Paper

1. Does the village's current infrastructure meet the needs of the community?
2. What infrastructure projects are most important to the village's long-term success?
3. If infrastructure upgrades are required, what is the best way to pay for needed improvements?
4. What worries, if any, do you have about infrastructure in the hamlet if the village dissolves?

Municipal Services

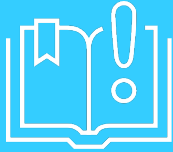
Capacity to provide services that meet community expectations and relevant regulated standards



Municipal Services – White Paper

1. What municipal services are important to you?
2. Do village services meet the needs of the community?
3. What worries, if any, do you have about services in the hamlet if the village dissolves?

Next steps



**Collect information from
the village and county**

**Engage with the community through
the survey and information sessions**



**Develop the
viability review report**

Questions?

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<https://www.alberta.ca/municipal-maps-statistics.aspx>



Thank you for participating!

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